
Kenneth B. Handelman



Deputy Under Secretary of the Navy (Policy)

Ken Handelman is the Deputy Under Secretary of the Navy for Policy (DUSN (P)) and an eighteen-year career member of the Senior Executive Service.

From 2017 – 2021 Mr. Handelman spent eighteen months in Kabul, Afghanistan as Director of the Executive Advisory Group, and then served in OSD-Policy as Senior Advisor for Afghanistan, Pakistan and Central Asia policy where he was the senior career civilian guiding policy development related to the Doha Agreement and the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan. Previously Mr. Handelman served as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs (PTDO) and Acting Assistant Secretary for International Security Affairs where he advised the Under Secretary for Policy and Secretary of Defense on policy issues related to the nations and international organizations of Europe, including NATO, and Russia, the Middle East, Africa, and the Western Hemisphere. He also oversaw security cooperation policy and foreign military sales strategy in these regions.

From 2013 - 2015 Mr. Handelman served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Defense Trade Controls where he oversaw the International Traffic in Arms Regulations and helped implement the President's Export Control Reform Initiative. Previously Mr. Handelman held policy positions at various ranks relating to non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, nuclear and missile defense, military cyber and space policy, technology security, peacekeeping and military planning, including service as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, then Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense, for Global Strategic Affairs from 2010 -2013.

Prior to his DoD service Mr. Handelman was Legislative Director for Senator Howard Metzenbaum of Ohio where he handled a variety of issues including foreign relations, government affairs and legislative strategy. Handelman is a graduate of Columbia

College and the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University, and of American University's Washington College of Law. Handelman has received various DoD and State Department decorations and remains happily married to his first wife with whom he raised four children; no plans for more of either. He enjoys cutting his own lawn.